

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 OPR-02 PER-01 /018 R

DRAFTED BY L/EA:EVERVILLE:EA/PHL:JELAKE:PAW

APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER

EA/PHL:DPSULLIVAN

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OPR/LS:TSIERRA (SUBSTANCE)

PER/FAC/TL:TRUSSELL(SUBSTANCE)

L/T:AROVINE (DRAFT)

OSD/ISA/FMRA:SGOLDSMITH (SUBSTANCE)

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O R 112023Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CINCPAC

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

CINCPACREPPHIL

CG 13TH AF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199431

MANILA FOR USDEL, CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT:PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS: A QUESTION OF
LANGUAGE

REFS: A. MANILA 11981, USDEL 195, DTG 110739Z AUG 76,

B. STATE 187099, DTG 282242Z JUL 76, C. MANILA 10893,

USDEL 153, DTG 230940Z JUL 76

1. FOR REASONS SET FORTH REFS B AND C WE CONTINUE TO BE
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EXTREMELY SKEPTICAL ABOUT IDEA OF A PILIPINO TEXT THAT

WOULD PURPORT TO HAVE ANY AUTHENTICITY, AND WE DO NOT
QUITE UNDERSTAND ROMUALDEZ' EXPLANATION THAT "SOLE PURPOSE
WOULD BE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ORIGIN OF THE DOCUMENT." THE
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES IN THE PHILS COMING UP WITH A
PILIPINO TRANSLATION WOULD SEEM TO BE OBSTACLE ENOUGH.

2. HOWEVER, IF YOU CONSIDER IT USEFUL, WE COULD AGREE TO
ROMUALDEZ' PROPOSAL WITH ADDITION OF WORDS "WHICH SHALL BE
THE AUTHENTIC TEXT" AT END OF FIRST SENTENCE AND WORD
"PHILIPPINE" BEFORE "TRANSLATION" IN SECOND SENTENCE.
WORDS "DULY INITIALED IN DUPLICATE" WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE
DROPPED FROM SECOND SENTENCE. TEXT WOULD THEN READ "THIS
AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED IN DUPLICATE IN THE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE, WHICH SHALL BE THE AUTHENTIC TEXT. A PHILIPPINE

TRANSLATION IN THE PILIPINO LANGUAGE IS TO BE DEPOSITED
ETC."

3. PURPOSE OF INSERTIONS IS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE
ENGLISH TEXT IS THE AUTHENTIC ONE AND THAT THE TRANSLATION
IS A PHILIPPINE TRANSLATION WITH NO OFFICIAL STATUS.
PURPOSE OF DELETION IS TO AVOID CLEAR IMPLICATION OF U.S.
NEGOTIATOR'S APPROVAL OF A TEXT HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND.
SINCE INITIALING INDICATES NEGOTIATOR'S APPROVAL (AT LEAST
AD REFERENDUM), WE DO NOT SEE HOW WE COULD AGREE TO
INITIAL PHIL TRANSLATION IN ABSENCE OF U.S. LANGUAGE
SERVICES CERTIFICATION.

4. BECAUSE OF THE UNAVAILABILITY OF ANYONE IN THE
LANGUAGE SERVICES DIVISION TO CERTIFY A PILIPINO TEXT OF
THE TREATY, THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE IF THERE WERE
AMERICAN OFFICERS IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE QUALIFIED AT A
S-5, R-5 LEVEL WHO COULD CERTIFY. BASED ON THE LATEST
AVAILABLE INFORMATION THERE ARE NO OFFICERS QUALIFIED AT
THIS LEVEL.

ROBINSON

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